

**Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Programs and Alternatives Committee
October 19, 2011**

Committee Members Present:

Diane Kelsner	Dick Manke	Meg Schnabl	Lee Wipfli	Ray Cunneen
Karl Held	Sara Carpenter	Mike DeMares	James Pearson	Jean LaTour (arrived at 8:48 a.m.)

Absent:

Pete Slesar	Kevin Osborne	Susan Andrews	Betty Groenewold	Judge James Kieffer
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Also Present:

Rebecca Luczaj	Windy Jicha	Lisa McLean
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DeMares called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from July 13, 2011

Motion: Held moved, Manke second, to approve the minutes of July 13, 2011 as amended. Motion carried 9-0.

Announcement

Luczaj said until recently the Offender Reentry Employment Program (OREP), operated by WCS, was funded with block grant funding. In August 2011, Waukesha County was alerted that block grant funding cuts would cause WCS to shut down the program at the end of the month if alternate funding was not found immediately. It was determined that \$12,400 was needed to fund the program for the remainder of 2011. Luczaj, Schuler and the Department of Administration determined that anticipated CJCC budget surplus could be used to fund the program for the remainder of the year and \$25K was found in the HHS budget to sustain OREP in 2012. Beginning in 2012, the program will be housed in the CJCC budget and WCS will continue to operate the program. Future community block grant funding remains uncertain. The CJCC Executive Committee felt this important program should be continued.

Presentation: Offender Reentry Employment Program Overview

Carpenter gave an overview on the OREP including program structure and statistical information for the period of January 2011 to September 30, 2011. The program is located at the Huber Facility and accepts clients Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Staff attend a weekly Huber Work Search Orientation to identify possible clients for the program. Clients meet with the OREP program manager one hour a week for job readiness and employment search assistance. The 2011 enrollment goal for the program is 40 but year-to-date, 146 participants have been enrolled in the program. For the purposes of this program, job retention is measured at 45 and 90 days, six and nine months and one year.

Offender Reentry Employment Program Statistics		
January 2011-September 30, 2011		
Measure	Goal	Actual
Program Enrollment	40	146
Job Readiness Completed	35	92
Job Searches Completed	30	128
Job Placements	25	22
Full-time Placements	-	8
Part-time Placements	-	14
FT Jobs Retained for Three Months	-	6

PT Jobs Retained for Three Months	-	9
FT Jobs Retained for Six Months	-	6
PT Jobs Retained for Six Months	-	8
FT Jobs Retained for Nine Months	-	8
PT Jobs Retained for Nine Months	-	6
FT Jobs Retained One Year	-	3
PT Jobs Retained One Year	-	1

Cunneen asked are Huber stays extended for OREP participants still seeking employment? Schnabl said Huber stays can be extended if WCS wants them to be extended.

Update on Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Drug Court Grant Award

Luczaj said the drug court core planning team consisting of Judges Domina and Foster, District Attorney Brad Schimel, Assistant District Attorney Tim Suha (ATC staffing team member), Public Defender Sam Benedict and Luczaj met for the first time last week to begin planning. It was determined the District Attorney's Office will be the program gatekeeper. A planning retreat will be scheduled in December and various stakeholders will be invited including Chuck Wood, Mike DeMares and Jim Dwyer.

LaTour arrived at 8:48 a.m.

Kelsner asked is the program open to offenders who have been charged with any offense? Luczaj said offenders who have committed most nonviolent crimes will be considered. LaTour said the program was not meant for those with low-level drug possession charges. Lots of discussion is needed to decide which offenses are allowable.

Kelsner asked is a defense attorney involved with the core planning team? Luczaj said a defense attorney will be invited to the retreat but is not part of the core planning team.

Update on Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) Research-Based Smarter Sentencing Training

Luczaj distributed and reviewed a handout titled *Smarter Sentencing to Reduce Recidivism Training*. Waukesha County's Smarter Sentencing training will be held January 19-20, 2012 at the County Springs Hotel and include teams from Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Walworth, Waukesha, Dodge, Ozaukee and Rock Counties. Luczaj is working with outside groups to confirm that participants are eligible to receive three continuing education credits for attending. Luczaj will soon prepare a noncompetitive grant application for \$50K, which will cover all expenses.

LaTour congratulated Luczaj for securing this training and grant opportunity especially considering most similar grants are awarded to criminal justice leaders LaCrosse and Eau Claire Counties.

Update on Alcohol Treatment Court Grant Eligibility Expansion

Luczaj said issues with Probation and Parole and ATC dual enrollments discussed at the last committee meeting have been worked out. A plan is now needed to increase the number of fourth OWI offenders in ATC since the program has only achieved 42% of the annual enrollment goal for fourths. She submitted a request to the ATC project officer asking for permission to expand program eligibility to third OWI offenders who have exhausted their insurance benefits or have no insurance. The project officer accepted the program change which luckily does not change the budget intent. This change will only apply to new program enrollments. Luczaj said she hopes these efforts will increase enrollments.

There has been discussion about making the program mandatory versus voluntary. Currently, it is the client's decision to enroll and participate. One possibility would be to make the program mandatory for fourth OWI offenders. Judge Davis recommended organizing a small multi-disciplinary group to brainstorm ways to increase enrollment. Further discussion and exploration is needed before a decision can be made.

LaTour said she can see why alcoholics who do not want to quit drinking would not enroll in the program. It's a good idea to have a committee explore options.

Update on Day Report Center Remodel Progress & 5th Year Anniversary Recognition in April 2012

Luczaj said the newly renovated DRC space is expected to be ready for business January 1, 2012 with a classroom and three offices with two workstations per office and will provide more privacy than the previous space. The new on-site classroom will greatly increase programming opportunities.

The Education and Public Relations Committee recently discussed ideas to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the DRC and recognize the program's achievements in April 2012. The group suggested promoting the anniversary and DRC with feature articles in local newspapers and websites, and a special presentation/recognition event at the March 2012 CJCC meeting with clients and staff in attendance.

Update on CJCC Programs Evaluation

Luczaj said one of the recommendations from the May 2011 strategic planning session was to have an outside source formally evaluate all CJCC programs. Program evaluations would be used to determine:

- What is working?
- What improvements are needed?
- Are the right programs being offered?
- Are programs meeting goals and expected outcomes?

Luczaj mentioned the need to evaluate programs to Matt Hiller, the ATC evaluator, and Hiller and colleague, UW-Milwaukee Criminal Justice Professor Tom LeBel, and his graduate students volunteered to collaboratively evaluate the programs free of charge. UWM graduate students will work on-site. As part of the CJCC technical assistance contract, the Public Policy Forum will also assist in the collaborative effort. The CJCC Executive Committee will provide direction for the evaluators who are scheduled to begin after January 1, 2012.

DeMares said it is important to define exactly what is to be measured. Luczaj said the CJCC Executive Committee has discussed several ideas and hopefully, the evaluators will help develop an effective plan.

Kelsner said this is great and congratulated Luczaj on finding evaluators who will work for free.

Next Meeting Date

- Wednesday, December 14, 2011 @ 8:30 am in the HHS Boardroom

Motion: Held moved, Kelsner second, to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.